(d) whether Government are going to adopt any concrete policy in order to decrease incresaing burden of education on children and to provide equal quality education for children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA: (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. There are several reasons of committing suicide by children like, pressure of examination, failure in examination, social problems, family problems, psychological pressure etc. Govt. of India took several steps to minimize such cases.

The NCERT has addressed the issue of curriculum load in the National Curriculum Framework and suggested measures to reduce it on the learners and minimize the stress and the fear of examination.

The CBSE has taken a series of steps such as appearance of genuine candidates for examinations, objective evaluation of papers, verification of marks on request and 'help line' for disturbed students.

The National Advisory Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal made a number of recommendations regarding the reduction of the academic burden on school children. The State Governments expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee. The Government has impressed upon the State Governments/UTs from time to time for expeditious implementation of the recommendations.

Academic collaboration with Sanskrit Bharti

4725. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a section of university teaching community has taken exception to the decision of a UGC 'Expert Committee' to

have academic collaboration with Sanskrit Bharti, an institution located at Jhandewalan in the National Capital;

(b) if so, whether the collaboration is intended for setting up centres for spoken Sanskrit in universities and colleges in the country;

(c) whether the Committee has unanimously decided to have academic collaboration with Sanskrit Bharti, for identifying proper teachers and conducting the courses; and

(d) if so, how many univerisities and colleges in the country have implemented this decision so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by UGC, there is no academic collaboration with Sanskrit Bharti.

Representation from Maharashtra regarding ICDS

4726. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Maharashtra Government and Anganwadis' Union regarding Intergrated Child Development Service Scheme; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [(SHRIMATI) SUMITRA MAHAJAN]: (a) No representation has been received from the Government of Maharashtra. A representation was, however, received from Akhil Bhartiya Anganwadi Karamchari Kriti Samiti, Thane, Maharashtra demanding improvement in their service conditions, including increase in honorarium.

(b) In principle it has been agreed to almost double the amount of honorarium for Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. The State